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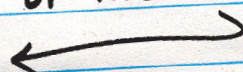
IF YOU HAD UNLIMITED MONEY, WHAT WOULD YOU DO?: First thing I'd would be travel to Greece

NEXT BIG TREND IN COCKTAILS: Any take on the Moscow Mule

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by CP staff

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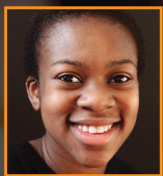
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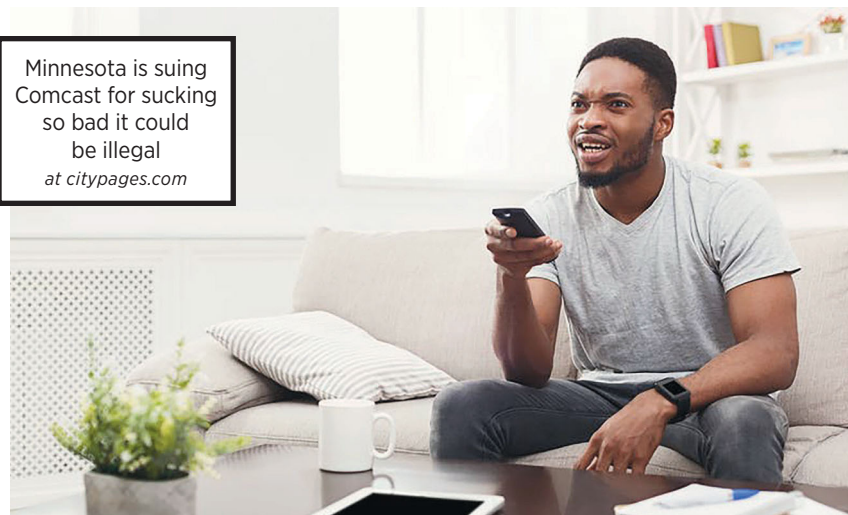
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THE SHORTLIST

Minnesota is suing Comcast for sucking so bad it could be illegal
at citypages.com



GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

THE STAT SHEET

1 million

Free meals served by Loaves and Fishes in 2018, up from 300,000 just five years ago

420

Deer killed during a special hunt in south-eastern Minnesota in hopes of fighting the spread of chronic wasting disease

20

Current or former teachers now in the Minnesota Legislature

66

Percentage of Minnesota's electricity that still comes from coal

“But he made it legal to say ‘Merry Christmas’ again, so it was worth it!”

Reader Jesse Meyer responds to “Scott Walker’s parting gift: A corporate welfare deal costing each Wisconsin taxpayer \$1,800,” at citypages.com.

COMPLAINT DEPT.

FOR THOSE INSISTENT upon the notion that their federal taxes go to the takers, rather than the makers, a breakdown of your bill might be in order.

An average of just 46 cents goes to fund colleges, museums, and libraries. Money for community policing runs 88 cents. Even subsidies for sustainable energy come out to a mere \$8.95. So to get the most from your ire, it might be wise to direct your rage at superior villains.

These would be the corporations requiring welfare to the tune of \$368 for every U.S. taxpayer. But they’re not to be outdone by the military, which takes \$575 from your pocket every year.

POPULAR STORIES

AT CITYPAGES.COM

Scott Walker’s parting gift:
A CORPORATE WELFARE DEAL
costing each Wisconsin taxpayer \$1,800

Meet the
10 TWIN CITIES ARTISTS
of the year

The Zimmer Era:
You’ll miss the
VIKINGS COACH
when he’s gone

TRANS WOMAN SUES
Minnesota football team
that denied her

DALTON AND WADE
restaurant’s closing

THE CURTAIN FALLS

On his way out the door, Erik Paulsen finds his soul

Congressman Erik Paulsen has not had the best of years.

After holding his seat in Minneapolis' western suburbs for five terms, the Eden Prairie Republican geared up for his midterm battle with Democrat Dean Phillips by vocally distancing himself from President Donald Trump. The reason: Trump had become anathema in the suburbs Paulsen represents.

Yet his ruse of independence was subverted by his own voting record, which showed him voting with Trump 97 percent of the time.

Paulsen tried to declare himself a lone, reasonable conservative—someone who would stand up to the president when it mattered, according to his folksy, canoe-paddling campaign ads. Voters weren't buying, and Paulsen was crushed at the polls.

Yet it's now time to give credit where credit is due. Paulsen was one of the few

House Republicans to stand against Trump on one of the president's signature grievances: funding for a border wall.

When the House passed a temporary funding bill allotting \$5.7 billion for the wall, Paulsen was one of only eight Republicans to vote against it.

Paulsen didn't respond to interview requests, so it's impossible to say what was on his mind. But the fact is, he has been against Trump's wall for a long time—even while otherwise being “about as risk-averse a congressman you'll find on Capitol Hill,” as MinnPost put it.

Did putting his foot down ultimately matter? Yes and no. The bill still passed 217 to 185. And his reward seems to be little more than resounding dismissal as a “RINO” (Republican In Name Only) from the MAGA crowd.

But even after voting for tax cuts that would raise the national debt by \$1.5 trillion, refusing to hold a town hall meeting for six years, running his campaign mostly



GLEN STUBBE, STAR TRIBUNE

on corporate and out-of-state money, and his overall voting record—in which he attempted to defund the Minnesota AIDS project, ban same-sex marriage, create a 24-hour waiting period for abortions,

and strip multiple environmental protections—he stuck out his neck for this one humanitarian issue.

Alas, it was ultimately a little too little, and a lot too late. —HANNAH JONES

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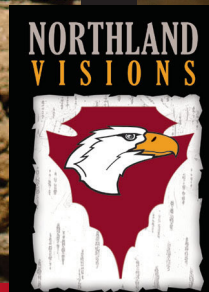
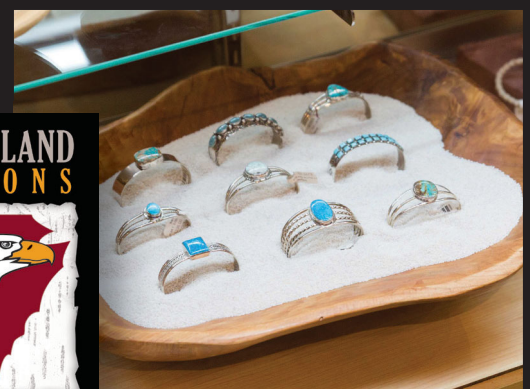
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THE SECRET JOYS

of Suffering Through Winter

The men with horns who roar like beasts

December 2010. The Snowpocalypse brings the Twin Cities 19 inches of snow, followed by subzero temperatures. Metro Transit has temporarily ceased operations. The roof of the Metrodome has collapsed.

I am inside my south Minneapolis apartment, freaking out about my car. Through the window, I see a white mound where it might be. I need to move it before the snowplows arrive, but I don't own a shovel. So I improvise with a bucket and a broom.

Three hours later, my car is clear, but the snow

surrounding it is up to my waist. I contemplate letting the city tow it.

Then I see them. A group of five men down the street, headed my way. They wear Minnesota Vikings hats, the kind with horns. They are equipped for battle, carrying shovels, kitty litter, and thermoses full of hot beverages (whiskey?).

"Do you need some help?"

They already have a plan: They're going to push my car down the block, out to a snow emergency route that is already cleared for parking.

I hop in and rev the engine. They roar like beasts as they push, lift, and rock my car down the street. The smell of burned rubber wafts through the air. Somehow, we make it to the clear street. A wave of relief and gratitude washes over me.

They offer to help my neighbor, who is stuck in the middle of the road. I join them and we high-five after dislodging her Kia.

Frozen, I head back inside. The pack moves on and continues to help those in need. I hear engines roaring and their joyful howls well into the night.

The next morning, they are at it again. I fire up the stove and make some coffee and cocoa. I grab beer too, and head out to find the pack.

"Aren't you frozen by now?" I ask.

"Naw," one responds, cracking open a beer. "I'm having the best time. I've met so many people this weekend."

I nod, understanding. It's an odd way to meet your neighbors, but there's something very Minnesotan about it. —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

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STAR TRIBUNE / AMANDA SNYDER

The winter cyclist, unevolved species

A smarter species has adapted to use handy tools like heated seats and Hyundai Elantras in battling the winter commute. As temperatures drop, this more developed genus strategically times the punching of remote starters, the hustle from house to pre-warmed car, shrewdly minimizing exposure to the elements.

Meanwhile, my evolution stopped with the invention of the studded bike tire.

As days shorten, I double the length of my morning routine, adding layer after layer to brace for the ride ahead. If you saw me on the road, you could argue that I'm evolving backward—gleefully shooting snot rockets with the tact of a prehistoric cave-dweller, my fleece-lined lobster-claw gloves transforming me into a strange breed of Upper Midwest crustacean.

It's no accident that the word "cyclist" sounds a lot like "masochist." There's a perverse pleasure in suiting up when the temperature officially drops below "fuck you," and the wind chill adds "right to hell." The slap of cold against skin is a reminder that you're alive, just as it's a reminder that you won't always be. Especially if you forget to pack an extra fleece for the night ride home, you moron.

No one has to live like this. And really, no adult should. That becomes evident each morning as I cram my salty-road-mush-caked self into the office elevator among suit jackets and skirts.

But there are plenty of stubborn bastards like me, whipping through the ice on two wheels, condemning themselves to chapped lips and dry skin that require military-grade Aquaphor to fix.

Maybe it seems lonely to an outsider, this frigid pursuit. To pedal solo as your

light cuts a sliver through the dark. To arrive 20 minutes late to the bar, sweating but still cold, when you could be sharing a Lyft with friends.

But it isn't.

There's fellowship written into each tweet and Facebook post from other Twin Cities cyclists, whether it's an exasperated update ("Day seven of uncleared, unusable bike lanes") or a comment to commiserate ("That headwind this morning..."). There's solidarity in the salute a rider issues from across the intersection, before we silently go our separate ways. There's community in the thin band of visible road I angle my tires toward, left by someone who traversed this snow-dusted trail before me.

So I tell my friends to call a car. I don't mind meeting them by bike. Today was tough, and I could use the ride to blow off some (literal) steam.

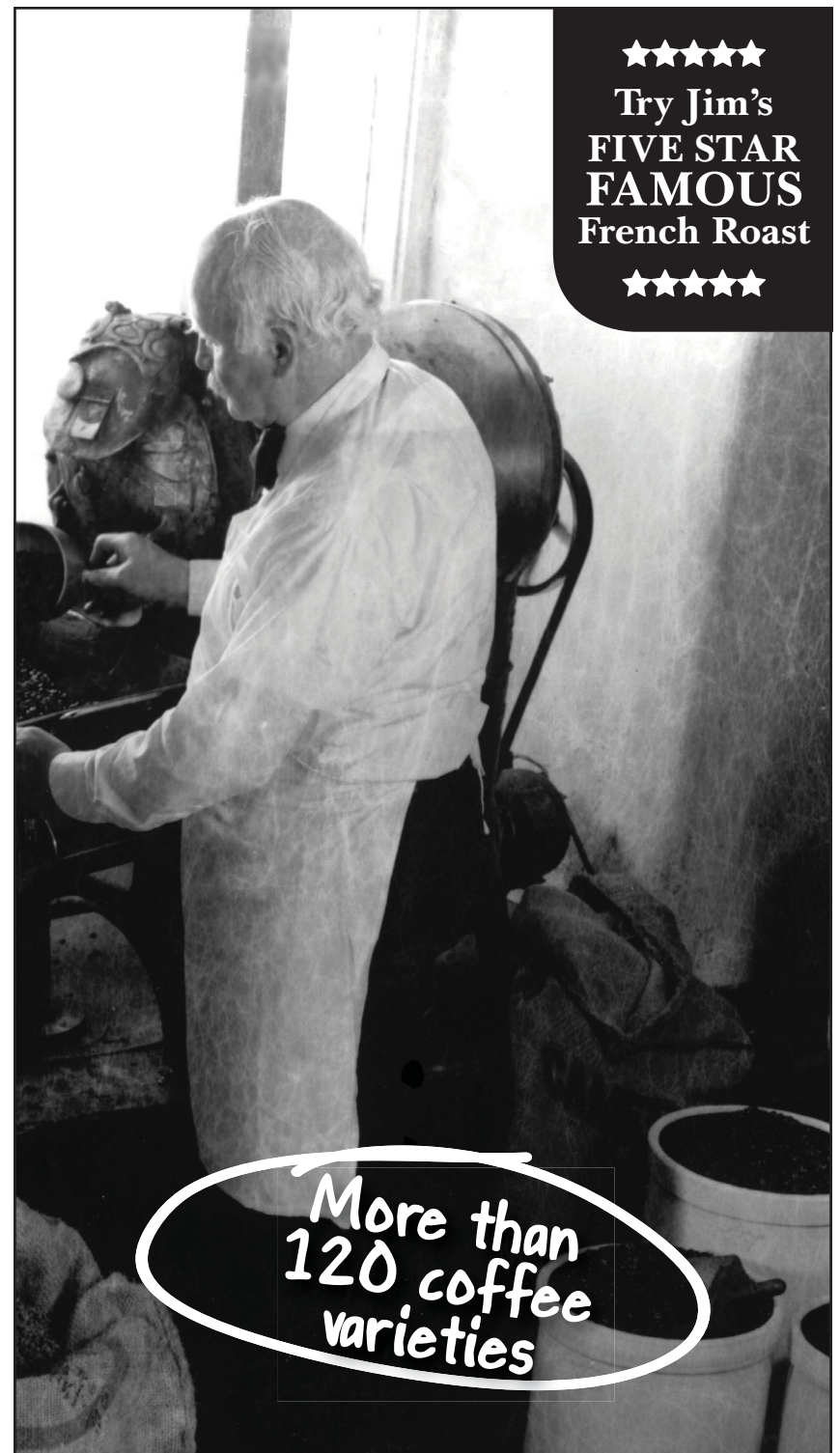
I'll go alone. Because the thing is, I'm not. Not really. —EMILY CASSEL

A nighttime feast of spectacle and speculation

When you grow up a scared kid with an overactive imagination, you never feel alone in the dark.

Nighttime was when unseen things clustered in shadows, knotholes in the door became eyes. Even the popcorn ceiling seemed to edge closer, threatening to turn my room into a garlic press... and me into garlic.

Winter was when nighttime was king. The sun started going down at 3 p.m. I wouldn't see it again until I was halfway to school the next morning, passing culs-de-sac of motionless houses with their black windows like dead eyes. In the dark, even a cookie-cutter suburban house is a hunching, hungry thing.



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GETTY IMAGES

This is when I first learned to hate winter. I kept my little Christmas tree up, letting it blaze all night to stave off whatever unwelcome company waited in my closet, beneath my bed, behind my eyelids.

I didn't learn to love winter nights until I moved to St. Paul. Darkness in the city is a different animal than its suburban cousin. It's a feast for spectacle and speculation.

Every evening starting around 5 p.m., I can witness the scenes behind lighted windows: shadow boxes of humanity occupied with wonderfully mundane human things.

There's the woman looking pensively out her office window, in a private world of her own private worries, seeming to float in midair inside a yellow rectangle 10 stories up. There's the man on the elliptical at the gym, sweating bullets as I make my way to the Green Line. There's the girl smiling to herself in a Patina store as she looks at a cardboard baby book—a gesture so totally unconscious and warm that it makes me smile too.

She doesn't know I can see her. She doesn't know about the woman in her office or the man on the elliptical. Each is a separate universe unto themselves—each self-contained and distinct and beautiful, like snow globes.

The only one who knows they exist on the same block is me: a wide-eyed observer, in the snow, in the dark. If the sun were out, they'd be invisible. And I'd be alone.

A scared kid knows you're never alone in the dark. It's only later you

learn how powerful that feeling can be. —HANNAH JONES

**They didn't haul all that gear
through a storm to put on
a half-assed show**

There's a special warmth you feel as you step into a club on a snowy night. All you hear as you approach the doorway is the crunch of your footsteps on the gathering snow, the sound of music emanating through the walls—an inviting beacon amid the tranquil whiteout surrounding you.

The gathered are here because they want to be here. It wasn't easy piloting their way through the storm. Getting home will be worse as the snow continues to fall. But for the next few hours, as the drinks flow and the music gets hot, these matters are discarded as we congregate in communal admiration

of the uplifting power of song.

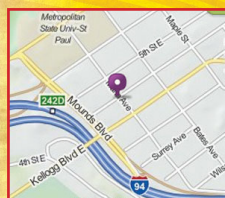
On these nights, the drinks taste a little better and the bartenders give an extra pour to reward the bravery of those who've found their way. Hugs and handshakes from old friends are warmer and linger a little longer than they do in summer, as we seek that personal connection within the cold's isolation.

The local bands—during winter, they're usually local, since national acts are afraid to tour due to nights just like this—sound better during snowstorms. They didn't haul all that gear through a storm to put on a half-assed show. And the crowd huddled at the stage didn't brave treacherous conditions to see a

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BECAUSE
THEY WANT
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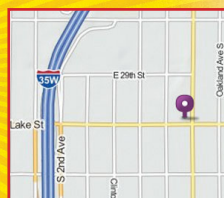
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tame performance. They want to see and hear magic. The bands rise to the challenge.

As the final notes ring out and last call is announced, the protective veneer of the club fades as the house lights shine bright. We are snapped from our reverie, once again confronted by thoughts of how to make it safely home.

But the music still rings in our ears, as do conversations shared with friends. Our hearts and minds are renewed, recharged. We head out into the storm, fully prepared to handle anything it throws our way. —ERIK THOMPSON

You, your dog, and 15 below

It's 15 below. Gone are the funny white go-carts, the men who inadvisably left home that morning wearing yellow pants. Snow has driven them from this occupied land. The Como Golf Course has been liberated for you.

It's not like you have anything against this elevated game of croquet. Except there's no checking or tackling. And opposite field power is considered a bad thing.

When the weather's warm, this luscious acreage of greenery and rolling hills—the largest open expanse in Como Park—is the golfer's exclusive province. You walk past every day with your dog, nose pressed against the edge like a kid at a toy store window, longing for the cold to drive them away. Now they are gone.

You take the first steps off Chelsea Street, where the children have packed the snow from heavy sledding. You unleash the dog, who sprints into this wonderland of smells. Your guilt is assuaged—at least somewhat. You know it's not right to own a dog in the city. That running aimlessly should be her natural state. Now, after months of walking leashed like some prison trustee, she has been paroled.

You watch for errant cross-country skiers, lest she corral them like wayward sheep. She is large and black and barking. The skiers know not that her intentions are pure.

You stand atop the steep hill, the wind laying waste to your face. Your fingers and legs are nearing that *oh shit* point of freezing. Mother Nature has shown up in full regalia.

It is at these times that you understand your insignificance. And it is beautiful. Your bullshit worries about your bullshit life are battered away by the punishing gales barreling down from Manitoba and beyond. Mother Nature has asserted her rightful authority. It's just you. The snow. The unchallenged primacy of the natural world.

There is something very freeing about this. You crunch across the course, the moon bright and the world silent, save for the Taste of the Artic Buffet delivered by those atmospheric caterers from Manitoba. There are so few moments like these in modern life. But they are abundant here in Minnesota, where the weather understands the import of solitude.

The dog runs and smells and digs until she's tired. You attach the leash as you rejoin the sidewalk and the lives you must resume.

But you are happy, and you will return again tomorrow night. You just hope it stays cold. —PETE KOTZ

Dim sum, Battlestar Galactica, and shapeless sweaters

Fish ruminate in their underwater caves. Bears snore in their north woods dens. The Loring Park squirrel mafia is enormous from all the Doritos they pilfered from unsuspecting basketball players, and now refuse to flinch for man or dog.

Likewise, I am emboldened by the calf-length maxi coat my mother found

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SVETLANA LUKIENKO

and the certainty that no one will see my true form for several long, lightless months.

I'm using this precious time to eat whatever the hell I want, rewatch the best episodes of all my favorite space operas, and revel in my complete transformation into an unapologetic lump of lard.

The roads are slush and there's a hole in my boot. But intraversable roads means no hour-long wait at Yangtze, and there's nothing quite as satisfying as watching the world disappear in a blizzard while a terse Chinese auntie hurls tiny plates of shrimp dumplings and chicken feet from a metal cart.

The president of the United States was recently accused of being a Sith lord. But I'm heartened—as I dedicate my Sunday nights to sitting swathed in a giant comforter with a bowl of popcorn—that at some distant point in the cycle of time Mary McDonnell will be president of the human race, which will finally unite to defeat its common Cylon enemies.

There's midnight ramen dressed with poached egg and bacon. Totino's in bed with the *Last Jedi* novelization. Double-serving freeze-dried camping dinners for breakfast, and a bouquet of gas station jerky for lunch while standing in the security line of the Hennepin County Courthouse.

If I want it, I eat it. This is America, I'm an adult, and Minnesota winter brings out the animal that craves Arby's and Mountain Dew in a hot bath. No sun, no shame. —SUSAN DU

Minnesota: Where the winter is fully committed

There's something pitiful about a mid-Atlantic winter.

Children scramble to collect every stray flake after a dusting in the vain hope they can form

something worth heaving at each other. The rare respectable snowfall is almost instantaneously reduced to a mucky slush that waits to engulf your pant leg when you step off the curb. Dreariest of all are those tepid days of 40-degree drizzle, indications of a meek winter that barely made an effort.

Each December, just as the cold threatens in earnest here, I head back to visit family in New Jersey, where the weather hems and haws. A cold snap may hint at genuine winter; a warm spell could taunt you with memories of comfort.

And always, there are those marrow-dampening, not-quite-freezing days I remember afterward, the ones I remember from my childhood. A New Jersey winter is a tiresome gnat, less a season than a nuisance.

A Minnesota winter commits. You may have to prepare every day for the cold, but you never have to wonder about it. Winter shows up here, leaves no room for doubt.

The eastern faux-winter makes me stupid and lazy and irritable. Worse, it makes me feel as though stupid and lazy and irritable is my natural state. A Minnesota winter reminds me that's not true, sharpens my focus, keeps me moving, brings me to life.

Not that this newfound life is translated into "winter activities." Skis and skates and snowshoes are not for me.

No, one reason I like winter is I get to spend much of it inside. For several months I have a retort for that tiresome parental voice telling me to go outside and play, and I can bask in the pleasures offered by antidotes to the cold. Guzzling warm liquids. Combining body heat. Burning things. And I look at the ice-embalmed branches stretching stiffly across the deceptively inviting blue skies the way they're meant to be seen—through a window. —KEITH HARRIS



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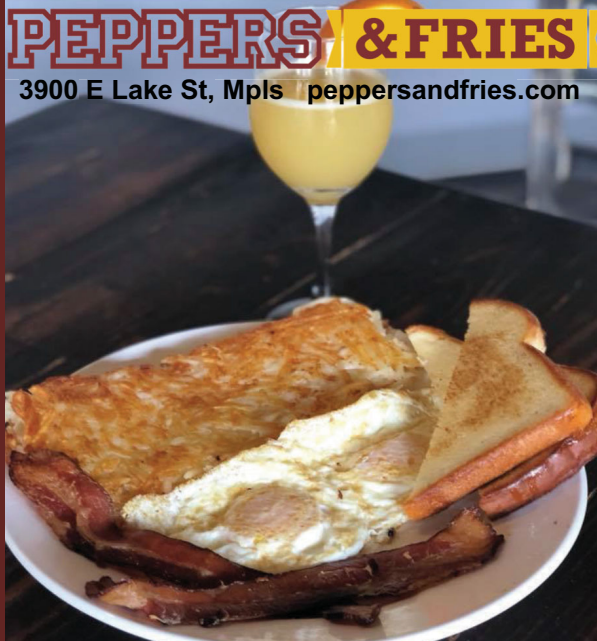
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BY AUSTIN GERTH

Plato never ate a slice of pizza. He did, however, propose the Theory of Forms, which holds that physical objects are less real than their unchanging essences, of which the things themselves are only imitations.

So, consider a slice of pizza. In fact, think of the perfect slice, whatever that means for you. Even this cheesy triangle can aspire to no more than imitation—imitation of the slice's ideal form, which floats in the soupy morass of humanity's collective unconscious. Ideals are to be strived for, asymptotically approached, never attained. But as many non-philosophers could tell you: A good imitation can still be pretty damn delicious.

Plato may not have been blessed with the opportunity to investigate the practically limitless physical forms pizza has taken, dying as he did 15 centuries before the first humble pie emerged from some Dark Age oven. But one Minneapolis man spent 2018 conducting his own thorough investigation.

Matt Gantz is a cyber risk consultant (and, full disclosure, a college acquaintance of this writer). Last year, he ate at least one slice per day, from a different pizza place each time, documenting every bite on Instagram (@pizzas365). He's eaten pizza in eight states, two countries—the U.S. and Norway—and Washington, D.C.

Along the way, Gantz rated each using a set of five “sub-dimensions”: crust, toppings, freshness, uniqueness, and price. Each criterion was assessed on a scale of one to five, and those ratings were aggregated into a single, definitive one-to-five rating.

We caught up with Gantz in mid-December, as he entered the home stretch of his saucy sojourn, to discuss his findings over a slice at St. Paul Italian food mecca Cossetta.

He says he'd been considering some sort of pizza-related challenge for a few years. His first thought was to try eating pizza for 365 consecutive days, but that felt too easy. “I go to Punch Pizza three or four times a week,” Gantz says. “Or I get Papa John's delivered. Those are pretty much my staples. So just increasing that by 40 percent didn't seem like enough of a challenge.” Since his work finds him traveling, often four or more days a week, he added the different restaurants stipulation to keep things interesting.

Gantz's ratings, doled out in a comment beneath each photo, are a little subjective. He knows what he wants in a slice. The criteria are as follows:



Crust: “What it comes down to is a crust that's reasonably chewy but to some extent still has a little bit of crunch in it.” The crust must be structurally sound beneath the toppings, and knife and fork should never be necessary.

Toppings: Ideally, you want a balanced cheese-to-sauce-to-everything-else ratio; meats, if present, must be lean. “I've had some really garbage, fatty sausage this year, and it turns me off to the rest of the pizza.”

Freshness: “Be fresh, to some extent at a low price, but you've got to find a balance there.”

Uniqueness: “I don't want to see only classics, but I also don't want to see only super crazy concoctions that nobody's ever heard of... pepperoni pizza should still be on your list.”

Price: For by-the-slice, “It shouldn't be a five- or six-dollar slice, it should be a

three- or four-dollar slice.” For a whole pie, Gantz cited \$30 as the absolute upper limit of reasonable. “It's supposed to be something that is fairly accessible to normal populations of people. It should be reasonably filling and reasonably tasty.”

Gantz gravitates toward Neapolitan, New Haven, and New York-style pizzas, and he found L.A.'s pizza relatively unimpressive.

How does Minnesota stack up?

“It's pretty solid,” Gantz says. “It's better than most, I'll say. Like Punch Pizza, obviously a staple here, is one of my favorites for sure, and then there are a number of really great what I would typify as prominent pizza players in the area.

“I always space on her name, but the woman who started Young Joni [Ann Kim], she also started Pizzeria Lola and Hello Pizza, all three of which are different styles of pizza in different price

ranges, and all phenomenal in their own regards.”

Is there a slice from the year that stands out as the best? What about a perfect pie—has Gantz encountered one in his travels?

Of course he hasn't. Were you paying attention to that rambling about Plato? But near-perfect, sure.

“I have eight different pizza places that I've ranked as a 4.8 out of five, so within one of those five dimensions they're missing one point,” Gantz said. “And usually it's on price. If they're doing well in all of the other categories, they're probably a little bit higher price tag.”

(Despite his views on reasonably priced pies, Gantz estimates he'll have spent \$8,500 on pizza in 2018.)

Like many food stories, Gantz's is partially about human connections. Since he started, he's found that not only do people ask him out for drinks, they want to help him score his next pizza. (And, if it's a whole pie, he likes to foist the leftovers on them.) Strangers occasionally reach out for recommendations, too.

“I have people on Instagram messaging me and saying, ‘Hey, I'm gonna be in New York, what are your top five places?’”

OK, so this guy ate pizza for a year. You like pizza too. Lots of people do. Maybe this challenge doesn't sound that... challenging? Gantz reports he never got sick of pizza as a concept, only tired of tawdry pies. The challenge came not from the slices themselves, but from life getting in the way of the daily hunt for the next one.

One particular work function nearly derailed his endurance test. The challenge stipulated that Gantz had to eat his slice during the calendar day—before midnight—and the 5 p.m. event ran deep into the evening. He couldn't escape. He'd set two alarms: 10:30 and 11:30. The first went off, then the second.

Luckily, the event took place in his hotel, and a desperate Gantz excused himself to use the restroom, stopping at the front desk first.

“I just told the lady, ‘Hey, my room is 1508,’ or whatever it was. ‘This is going to be a really weird request, but I need you to deliver a pizza to my room. Just room service a pizza there, and I need it as soon as possible.’”

He returned to the event, then excused himself again at 11:50. He went back to his room. The pizza followed three minutes later.

“I got my slice at 11:55 p.m.,” Gantz says. “And I ate it at 11:57.” **GF**



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LIST

FRIDAY Dogs woof it up in St. Paul **p. 20****SATURDAY** Wrestlepalooza extends to two nights **p. 21****SUNDAY** Dennis Hopper flicks at Trylon **p. 23**

WEDNESDAY 1.2

COMEDY

DEREK HUGHES

ACME COMEDY CO.

Derek Hughes is known for mixing comedy and magic, with his act usually relying more on the latter. When he performs for corporate clients, it's almost entirely magic. "Comedy these days is a tricky business, so to speak, with our sensitive culture," he says. He's dropped some jokes that are "not offensive," he notes, "but the audience doesn't know if it's okay to release and laugh." For example, he used to do a bit after a woman from the audience would help him with an illusion. "As she was going back to her seat I'd say, 'Hey, that was great, maybe you should quit your job and become a magician. You could a female magician, a master magina.'" Hughes even had T-shirts designed by a Minneapolis artist, because the joke killed. "I don't do it anymore because I can feel the audience go, 'Can we laugh at that?'" That said, he still feels he can open up more in a club setting like Acme. "I had this revelation a few years ago. I was doing colleges and clubs, and there's a very distinct difference between those. At a college or corporate event, the audience is sort of the unified group and the entertainer is the outside guest." A club, on the other hand, is a group of strangers coming together to form a larger group that's there to see the entertainer. "I'm the host, and the audience members are my guests, and in that environment I feel like I can say and do what I want." 8 and 10:30 p.m. \$15-\$18. 708 N. First St., Minneapolis; 612-338-6393. **Through Saturday — P.F. WILSON**

THURSDAY 1.3

COMEDY

DES BISHOP

RICK BRONSON'S HOUSE OF COMEDY

A bit of a handful as a teenager, Des Bishop was shipped off to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 20 ►

AMELIA BIEWALD. THE ARGUMENT



Amelia Biewald explores the odd case of a woman who claimed to give birth to rabbits.

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SCRUNCHIES, STATIC PANIC,
YAM HAUS
JAN 04

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WRESTLEPALOOZA XIV
WITH DILLINGER FOUR
AND SPECIAL GUEST DAVID ARQUETTE
(JAN. 05 SOLD OUT)
JAN 06

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
THE 12TH ANNUAL HAPPY BIRTHDAY JANIS: A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE & MUSIC OF JANIS JOPLIN
WITH REED GRIMM, MAE SIMPSON
JAN 12

89.3 THE CURRENT PRESENTS
THE CURRENT'S 14TH BIRTHDAY PARTY
WITH THE SUBURBS, BAD BAD HATS,
RAYLAND BAXTER, SCRUNCHIES
JAN 18

89.3 THE CURRENT PRESENTS
THE CURRENT'S 14TH BIRTHDAY PARTY
WITH CLOUD CULT, J.S. ONDARA,
ANNIE MACK, PORCUPINE
JAN 19

NONAME ROOM 25
WITH ELTON
JAN 25

89.3 THE CURRENT PRESENTS
THE LEMON TWIGS
WITH JACKIE COHEN
JAN 26

MIKE STUD
THE FINAL MIKE STUD TOUR
JAN 29

THE DEVIL MAKES THREE
WITH LOST DOG STREET BAND
FEB 01

89.3 THE CURRENT PRESENTS
P.O.S NEVER BETTER 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY TOUR
WITH KITTEN FOREVER, MARGRET
FEB 02

LP
Heart To Mouth Tour 2019
WITH YOKE LORE
FEB 07

CHERUB
WITH MOSIE
FEB 08

GUSTER
The Look Alive World Tour of
Most of America & Parts of
Southern Canada
WITH HENRY JAMISON
FEB 09

HEART BONES
Do the Songs of *Dirty Dancing*
WITH THE SUFFERS
FEB 14

MANDOLIN ORANGE
FEB 15

SHARON VAN ETEN
REMIND ME TOMORROW TOUR
WITH NILÜFER YANYA
FEB 16

WATSKY
COMPLAINT TOUR
FEB 17

COLTER WALL
FEB 21

ROYAL TRUX
WITH WOLF EYES
FEB 23

GO 96.3 PRESENTS
ACTION BRONSON
WHITE BRONCO TOUR
WITH ROC MARCIANO,
MEYHEM LAUREN
FEB 24

AURORA
WITH TALOS
FEB 27

89.3 THE CURRENT PRESENTS
JOHN MAUS
FEB 28

89.3 THE CURRENT PRESENTS
I'M WITH HER WINTER TOUR 2019
WITH MIPSO
MAR 01

MARDI GRAS IN MPLS FT. COWBOY MOUTH AND DRIVIN' N CRYIN'
MAR 02

GO 96.3 PRESENTS
ANDREW MCMAHON IN THE WILDERNESS UPSIDE DOWN FLOWERS TOUR
WITH FLOR, GRIZFOLK
MAR 03

JACOB BANKS
MAR 06

MIKE DOUGHTY
plays Soul Coughing's *Ruby Vroom* 25th Anniversary Tour
WITH WHEATUS
MAR 09

JUNGLE
WITH HOUSES
MAR 12

BIG WILD
Superdream Tour
WITH ROBOTAKI, MILD MINDS
MAR 20

UNCLE ACID & THE DEADBEATS and GRAVEYARD
Peace Across The Wasteland Tour
WITH DEMOB HAPPY
MAR 25

JESS GLYNNE
MAR 29

TREVOR HALL
The Moon Sun Tour
WITH DIRTWIRE
MAR 30

PALACE THEATRE UP NEXT

INTERPOL
W/ SUNFLOWER BEAN
FEB 05

RAINBOW KITTEN SURPRISE
W/ MT. JOY
FEB 12

BIG HEAD TODD AND THE MONSTERS
W/ BLUE WATER HIGHWAY BAND
FEB 22

BEIRUT
W/ HELADO NEGRO
FEB 23

YOUNG THE GIANT MIRROR MASTER TOUR
W/ SURE SURE
FEB 24

JAMES BLAKE
MAR 04

THE REVIVALISTS
Take Good Care Tour
MAR 09

VINCE STAPLES: SMILE, YOU'RE ON CAMERA
W/ JPEGMAFIA
MAR 16

JENNY LEWIS
ON THE LINE TOUR 2019
MAR 29

BOB MOULD BAND
SUNSHINE ROCK TOUR
MAR 30

FINE LINE UP NEXT

INDIGO DOW PRESENTS
IN MOTION
W/ DJ MICHEL BE, DJ LADY EM,
queenDUIN, TaliaKnight
FRIDAY, JANUARY 11

KONGOS 1929 Tour
W/ FITNESS
MONDAY, JANUARY 21

MØ FOREVER NEVERLAND WORLD TOUR: CHAPTER 2
W/ ABRA
SATURDAY, JANUARY 26

TURF CLUB UP NEXT

NAZEEM & SPENCER JOLES AND SEABERG & THE VELVET PUNKS
W/ GUANTE & BIG CATS, BLVCK MADONNA
THURSDAY, JANUARY 3

BUTTON POETRY PRESENTS
NEIL HILBORN
W/ LYDIA LIZA, BERNARD FERGUSON
FRIDAY, JANUARY 4

The Annual Blowout ft. BIRTHDAY SUITS, BLAHA, EX NUNS, IV
SATURDAY, JANUARY 5

CHARLIE PARR
JANUARY 2019 SUNDAY RESIDENCY
W/ KYLE OLLAH
SUNDAY, JANUARY 6

SPAFFORD
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30

EMILY KING
THURSDAY, JANUARY 31

POST ANIMAL AND RON GALLO
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1

THE CACTUS BLOSSOMS RESIDENCY
W/ FRANKIE LEE
MONDAY, JANUARY 7

MONDO GENERATOR
W/ RED DESERT, BUSEY
THURSDAY, JANUARY 10

DAN TEDESCO (TOM PETTY WILDFLOWERS TRIBUTE + STARIN' AT A GREEN LIGHT 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY) and CHRIS DAVIES (7th ALBUM RELEASE SHOW)
FRIDAY, JANUARY 11

RINGOUT! SONGS IN A WALKING TEMPO RELEASE SHOW
W/ ANNIE AND THE BANG BANG, BEEBE GALLINI, AHM
SATURDAY, JANUARY 12

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PALACE THEATRE \$30+ / 7:30PM DOORS / 18+

7TH ST ENTRY UP NEXT

AUTHOR
W/ HEART TO GOLD, GREENTOP
THURSDAY, JANUARY 3

I.R.M. CREW REUNION!
W/ TLC, KEL-C, DEVASTATING D, CUTIN KAL, TRUTH MAZE, SET THE SMITH, AND MORE
FRIDAY, JANUARY 4

HOMEMADE SPACESHIP AND FUNKSTATIK
W/ BLUE FUTURE, WABASHA
SATURDAY, JANUARY 5

NIICE.
W/ BRUISE VIOLET, HARPER'S JAR, GRANDDAD
SUNDAY, JANUARY 6

REMEMBER SPORTS
W/ NADINE, BRENT PENNY
MONDAY, JANUARY 7

ODD DAUGHTERS
W/ LAVENDER DAUGHTER, PONG FLOWER
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9

KALEEM THE DREAM
Night of the Assassins
W/ DESTINY ROBERTS, AUBREY KING, TOMORROW GENIUS, AND MORE
THURSDAY, JANUARY 10

SEAN ANONYMOUS BIRTHDAY SHOW FT. SEAN ANONYMOUS & DJ NAME
W/ GREG GREASE, LADY MIDNIGHT, AND MORE
FRIDAY, JANUARY 11

AROUND TOWN

RIPE Tour 2019
W/ WAKER
AMSTERDAM BAR & HALL
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30

RKCB & SHOFFY: See For Yourself Tour
AMSTERDAM BAR & HALL
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15

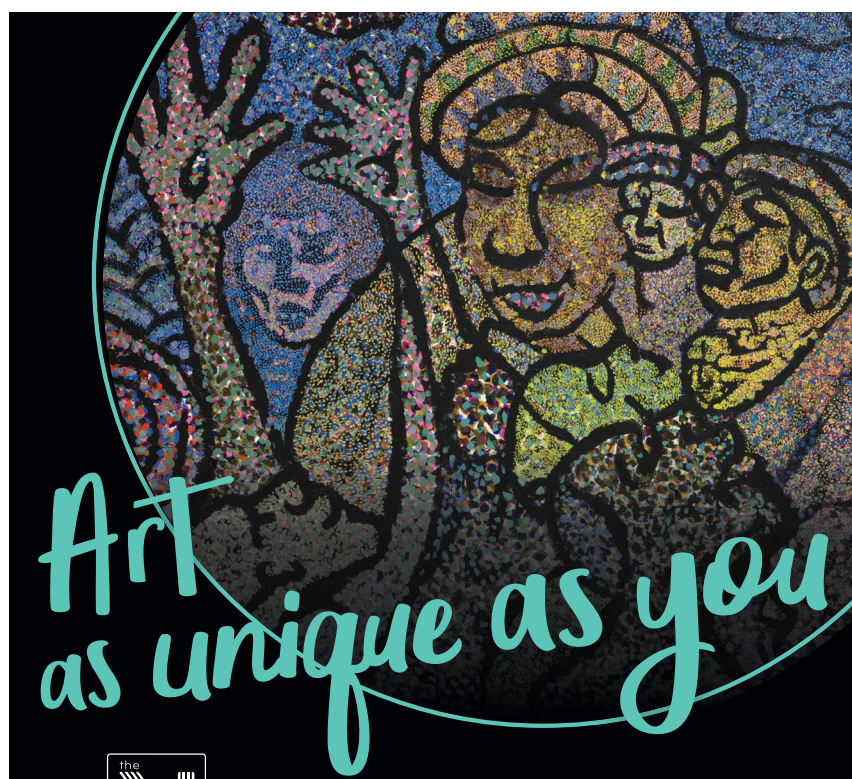
WHO? WEEKLY
THE CEDAR
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28

TOKEN
Between Somewhere Tour
AMSTERDAM BAR & HALL
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

WHO? WEEKLY
THE CEDAR
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28

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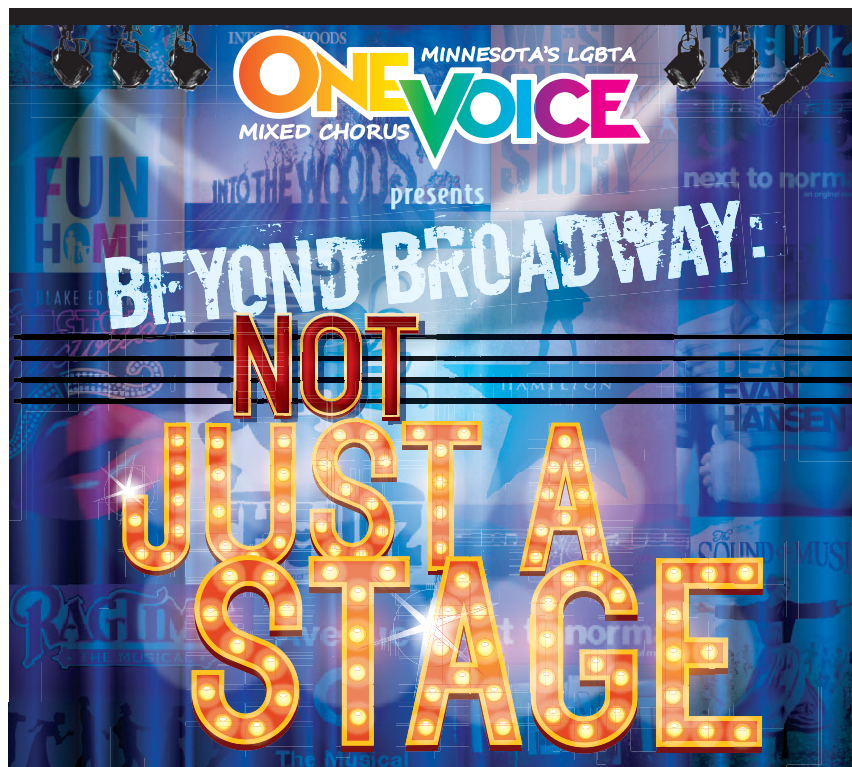


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A-LIST



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GETTY

CONTINUED FROM THURSDAY ►

Ireland from New York City by his parents when he was 14. The Emerald Island has been home ever since. Sounding more like fellow comic Pete Correale than, say, actor Liam Neeson, Bishop describes himself as an Irish guy with a New York accent. “Irish people don’t really see me as an Irish person,” he notes. “Honorary at best. And Americans don’t see me as a normal New Yorker; the accent confuses them. However, if I get totally comfortable, or I’m in a really bad mood, the New York accent is very strong.” He started comedy while in college in Ireland and quickly caught the attention of industry professionals there. Comedian Eddie Brill, who used to book David Letterman’s show, saw Bishop and invited him to perform at Caroline’s the next time he was in New York. “I was clueless as to how to perform in the States,” he recalls, “so, I went up and pretended to be Irish and talked about America.” It was the polar opposite of what he had been doing, and it didn’t work. “I knew what to do the next time, though.” Now he discusses subjects that are relatable to audiences in both countries. “I talk about getting older, nostalgia for the past, taking care of aging parents, and social issues like sexual taboos.” 16+. 7:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday; 9:45 p.m. Friday; 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday; 9:30 p.m. Saturday. \$20. 408 E. Broadway, Mall of America, Bloomington; 952-858-8558. **Through Sunday —P.F. WILSON**

FRIDAY 1.4

DOGS

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GREMLIN THEATRE

In *The Father*, contemporary playwright Florian Zeller’s devastating drama, an elderly man lives in defiance (if not outright denial) of his rapidly advancing

SATURDAY

PERFORMANCE

WRESTLEPALOOZA XIII & XIV

FIRST AVENUE

The biannual collision of rock, wrestling, and burlesque known as Wrestlepalooza has gotten so massive that it can't be contained in just one evening. For the first time ever, Wrestlepalooza takes place on back-to-back nights at First Avenue, with different matches at each show, new surprises, and one Hollywood megastar. For wrestling superfans, both nights will feature the legendary Great Sasuke coming all the way from Japan to throw down at First Ave, along with indie mega stars like Colt Cabana, Arik Cannon, Shane Strickland, and Kimber Lee. There will also be world-class burlesque with Sweetpea and Joy Coy taking the stage, while Dillinger Four will be on hand to provide the soundtrack to each night of hard-hitting mayhem. But the biggest deal of this year's Wrestlepalooza is undoubtedly the appearance of David Arquette. Yeah, the actor. Dewey from all four *Scream* movies. Arquette has recently jumped head-first into the world of pro wrestling, and will be stepping in the ring for the first time in Minnesota on Sunday night. There are still tickets available for Arquette's local debut, but if history is any indicator that won't be the case come fight night. 18+. 7 p.m. Saturday; 6 p.m. Sunday. \$27/\$35 at the door. 701 First Ave. N., Minneapolis; 612-338-8388. **Through Sunday —PATRICK STRAIT**



The Great Sasuke

COURTESY EVENT ORGANIZERS

dementia. But even those who possess the most immutable of wills can be subject to debilitating delusions. The man facing this particular ordeal is André, an authoritative figure whose rigid sense of order has long governed all areas of his life, including his approach to parenting, a fact painfully evident to the grown daughter who must now care for him. Or must she? Familial responsibility is just one of the dilemmas confronted in this thought-provoking play. Directed by Ellen Fenster, this area premiere from Gremlin Theatre offers a spotlight role to Craig Johnson, with supporting turns from Miriam Schwartz, Peter Christian Hansen, Emily Grodzik, Matt Wall, and Olivia Wilusz. 7:30 p.m. Thursdays through Saturdays, plus Monday, January 14; 3 p.m. Sundays. \$25-\$28. 550 Vandalia St., St. Paul; 651-228-7008. **Through January 27 —BRAD RICHASON**

FESTIVAL

CONSOLE ROOM 2019

HILTON MSP AIRPORT/MALL OF AMERICA

For the past five years, CONSOLE Room has hosted multi-day events celebrating all things *Dr. Who*. This year, they'll return for three days of talks, room parties, workshops, and more. Celebrity guests include Katy Manning, who played companion Jo Grant opposite the third Doctor (Jon Pertwee), and Neve McIntosh, who plays Madame Vastra, an ancient

lizard who finds herself awakened in 19th-century England (where she lends her skills to Scotland Yard and marries a human woman, naturally). Panels will cover a variety of topics, including plot inconsistencies, the science behind some of the ideas presented in the series, and the beloved (and often terrifying!) Christmas specials. Other fun to be had includes a cosplay contest, *Dr. Who* seed art, a vendor market, artist alley, and workshops covering things like sci-fi makeup, prop building, and fan-fiction writing. Find more info at console-room.com. \$35-\$50; VIP and weekend passes also available. 3800 American Blvd., Bloomington; 952-854-1687. **Through Sunday —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER**

SATURDAY 1.5

ART/GALLERY

THE CURIOUS CASE OF MARY TOFT

ROSALUX GALLERY

In *The Favourite*, Yorgos Lanthimos' new film fantasia of royal rivalries, Queen Anne keeps quarters with 17 rabbits—one for every child she's lost. What would Mary Toft, an 18th-century Englishwoman who in 1726 apparently began giving birth to rabbits, have thought? She'd probably consider Queen Anne an amateur.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 23 ►

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LAURA MIGLIORINO

CONTINUED FROM SATURDAY ►

Toft's rabbit babies were allegedly a thing that had scientists baffled. Minneapolis artist Amelia Biewald was intrigued, and took up this odd case as inspiration and subject matter for her new exhibition, "The Curious Case of Mary Toft." Biewald's installations merge myth, mystery, science, and scandal into dreamy representations that seemingly drift through time with potent possibility. Tom Tozer's hard-edged abstractions provide quite the counterpoint in this joint exhibition. There will be an opening reception for both shows on Saturday, January 5, from 7 to 10 p.m. 1400 Van Buren St. NE, #195, Minneapolis. **Through January 27** —CAMILLE LEFEVRE

MUSEUM

FREE FIRST SATURDAYS

WALKER ART CENTER

The Walker Art Center hosts kid-friendly fun the first Saturday of every month. This weekend is no different, with plenty of special activities planned. This installment will feature local authors and explorations in the color wheel. Illustrator and author Tamara Shopsin will be teaming up with photographer Jason Fulford to talk about what different colors mean to them. The two have released quite a few children's books, including *This Equals That*, *Find Colors*, *These Colors Are Bananas*, and *A Pile of Leaves*. Award-winning poet Bao Phi will read from *A Different Pond*, his picture book following a father and son as they fish in Minneapolis. Craft projects, short film screenings, and other creative

fun will be available for free this afternoon, too. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Free. 725 Vineland Place, Minneapolis; 612-375-7600. —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

PARTY

GLAM ROCK DANCE PARTY

CAN CAN WONDERLAND

Can Can Wonderland isn't just a mini-golf course. It also hosts dance nights, theater productions, free tap-dance lessons, and more. This Saturday, they'll be going glam (and a little goofy) at their Glam Rock Dance Party. Throw on some glitter, head into the ballroom, and dance to DJ tunes until the wee hours of the morning. Or try to pull off your best Bowie impression at the karaoke station. The air guitar competition may win you a prize if you're good at make-believe, and surprise performances will also keep people entertained. 21+. 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. \$2. 755 Prior Ave. N., St. Paul. —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

ART/GALLERY

ABSENTIA: ABANDONED PAST

BANFILL-LOCKE CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Abandoned spaces can be mysterious, beautiful, or completely unnoticeable. For photographer Laura Miglierino, they can also be deeply personal. Rather than focusing on empty storefronts, rusted and overgrown amusement parks, or rundown schools, she chooses to explore homes. "The project began when we placed my mom in a nursing home due to advanced dementia," she states in a press release. "This marked the beginning of a process of loss, and the slow

dismantling of our family home." With her eye and a camera, she examines the relationships we build with the places we live in, as well as how shifts in occupants can bring about renewal and new life. See her work at her first solo show in the Twin Cities. You may already be familiar with her pieces; some of her photography is already part of the Walker's permanent collection. The opening reception will be held on Saturday, January 5, from 4 to 6 p.m. There will also be an artist's talk Saturday, January 19, at 2 p.m. 6666 E. River Rd., Fridley; 763-574-1850. **Through February 2** —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

SUNDAY 1.6

FILM

DENNIS HOPPER:
AMERICAN NIGHTMARE

TRYLON CINEMA

Actor Dennis Hopper, who died in 2010, was an incorrigible nonconformist who crafted electrifying performances in a wide range of films, stealing the screen in low-budget indies and studio blockbusters alike. While his career trajectory veered from acclaimed heights to precipitous depths, Hopper insisted on following his muse, turning in haunting portrayals of outcasts enduring on the margins of American society. The latest retrospective at Trylon Cinema, Dennis Hopper: American Nightmare, offers a thrilling compendium of fringe figures living against the odds. Starting with Hopper's directorial debut, *The Last Movie* (1971), the series leaps into artistic abandon, as the film subverts narrative expectations to follow a former Hollywood horse wrangler in search of a utopian paradise in Peru. Shot in expressionistic black-and-white, Francis Ford Coppola's *Rumble Fish* (1983) presents Hopper as a regretful father mired in alcoholism. In the underrated *The American Friend* (1977), Hopper portrays a lifelong crook who finds an unlikely accomplice in a terminally ill picture framer. On a more deranged note, *Blue Velvet* (1986) earned Hopper accolades for his terrifying portrayal of a sadomasochistic killer menacing a nightclub singer and her would-be protector. And in *True Romance* (1993), Hopper brings empathy to his role as a father resolved to protect his wayward son at any cost. Showtimes vary, check trylon.org for more info. \$8. 2820 E 33rd St, Minneapolis; 612-424-5468. **Through January 29** —BRAD RICHASON

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SOPHOMORIC, MY DEAR WATSON

Holmes & Watson is on another level of awful



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BY TONY LIBERA

If you weren't already sick of Sherlock Holmes adaptations, the latest Will Ferrell and John C. Reilly outing will do the trick. An alleged comedy, *Holmes & Watson* is light on laughs and heavy on nothing special, an hour and a half of bland one-liners, half-assed slapstick, and a handful of masturbation jokes a sixth-grade boy would find lowbrow.

Fans of *Talladega Nights* and *Step Brothers*, prepare to be disappointed.

Holmes & Watson takes the Sherlock mythos at its most, well, elementary. Consulting detective Sherlock Holmes (Ferrell) and his loyal companion, Dr. John Watson (Reilly), find themselves playing a game of wits with the Napoleon of Crime, Pro-

fessor James Moriarty (Ralph Fiennes). But there's a twist: Holmes and Watson are dumbasses.

Turning the Great Detective trope on its head could have offered home-run hilarity, but *Holmes & Watson* can't decide what it wants to be. Reilly plays his version of Watson as a straight-up dope, which works pretty well given the state of medicine in Victorian England. But Ferrell's Sherlock alternates between superhuman cleverness and bumbling idiocy with a randomness that undermines the movie.

Plot and characterization were obviously going to be secondary here, and all can be forgiven if a movie is funny enough. But *Holmes & Watson* just isn't funny. With comedic heavyweights like

Ferrell and Reilly, along with writer-director Etan Cohen (*King of the Hill*, *Tropic Thunder*), you'd think this movie would be a surefire laugh riot. And yet against all odds, *Holmes & Watson* is not only bad, but one of the worst and unfunniest movies of 2018.

The movie would have been a thousand times better had Cohen and company just leaned into a stupid version of Sherlock, rather than tweak the character to be somewhat of a goof who's a genius under it all.

Imagine a Sherlock Holmes who is completely inept but stumbles around like Mr. Magoo into success after unexpected success. This would have allowed Ferrell to take his goofballery to its max, rather than conform the humor to fit a

HOLMES & WATSON

directed by Etan Cohen
area theaters, now playing

weak narrative. And it would have also allowed Fiennes and Rob Brydon (who plays Inspector Lestrade) better parts, acting out their frustrations with the fool who continues to make them look bad. Instead, both men are relegated to bit players, and Fiennes' skill in particular is wasted.

Nobody goes into this kind of movie expecting Shakespeare, but *Holmes & Watson* is on another level of awful. Ferrell's humor certainly isn't for everybody, but even his most diehard fans will have trouble sitting through this one. **D**

BUY THE BOOK

Read these works before they hit the stage



Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

JOAN MARCUS

BY JAY GABLER

The ties between page and stage are close and, often, surprising. Here are six books you can finish off with a visit to the theater this winter and spring.

Harry Potter series, J.K. Rowling

POTTED POTTER, PANTAGES THEATRE, FEBRUARY 12-MARCH 3

Unlike those Gryffindor™ socks you got from your aunt, this 70-minute run through all seven *Harry Potter* books is decidedly unauthorized. Daniel Clarkson and Jefferson Turner have been presenting parodic takes on the Wizarding World since 2005, when they assembled a five-minute series recap for readers waiting to buy *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*. Now *Potted Potter* is an epic stage show that tours the world.

Sense and Sensibility, Jane Austen

SENSE AND SENSIBILITY, LYRIC ARTS, FEBRUARY 15-MARCH 3

Kate Hamill has a knack for giving renewed life to literary classics onstage; it's made her one of America's most frequently produced playwrights. Her superb new *Little Women* premiered last fall at the Jungle Theater, and if you missed her *Sense and Sensibility* at the Guthrie in 2016, Lyric

Arts is giving you another opportunity to see this fresh take on the Dashwood sisters in one of Austen's most iconic stories.

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, Roald Dahl

CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY, ORPHEUM THEATRE, MARCH 6-17

Marc Shaiman and Scott Wittman, the musical duo behind *Hairspray* and *Mary Poppins Returns*, also wrote the songs for this 2013 adaptation of Roald Dahl's 1964 book. Yes, the song "Pure Imagination" was imported from the 1971 movie, but no, the creepy boat ride song wasn't. So you're safe, as long as you stay away from the blueberry bubblegum.

The Hobbit, J.R.R. Tolkien

THE HOBBIT, CHILDREN'S THEATRE COMPANY, MARCH 12-APRIL 14

The Children's Theatre Company has an especially literary slant this season, including upcoming adaptations of *Mr. Popper's Penguins*, *The Biggest Little House in the Forest*, and *Matilda*. The most intriguing, though, is their premiere of Greg Banks' new *Hobbit*. With star Joy Dolo promising an Oprah-inspired Gandalf, this production should wash Peter Jackson's turgid trilogy from your mind.

Comical History of the States and Empires of the Moon, Cyrano de Bergerac

CYRANO DE BERGERAC, GUTHRIE THEATER, MARCH 16-MAY 5

Despite being a sci-fi pioneer, the 17th-century French writer Cyrano de Bergerac is ironically better known through a fictionalized story about him than for anything he actually wrote. Edmond Rostand's 1897 play has inspired countless adaptations of its own, including the Steve Martin vehicle *Roxanne* (1987) and the new Netflix movie *Sierra Burgess Is a Loser*. Read Cyrano's satirical adventure, then see Rostand's beguiling romance on the stage.

Metamorphoses, Ovid

METAMORPHOSES, GUTHRIE THEATER, APRIL 13-MAY 19

If you haven't dusted off Ovid's poem since it was assigned in school, stick it in your bathroom reading basket before you plunge into Mary Zimmerman's 1998 play. Inspired by Ovid's mythopoetic episodes, *Metamorphoses* is set in and around an onstage pond. One high school production used a kiddie pool, but the Guthrie will doubtless get a little more lavish. **CP**

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MICHEALA NEWMAN

19, SINGER, INFLUENCER,
FINANCIAL ASSISTANT

What are you wearing?

ASOS jacket; thrifted turtleneck, fanny pack, and black denim; white Reebok sneakers.

Describe your style:

A mix of dope reused pieces, usually.

What was your favorite style trend of 2018?

Chunky tennis shoes—they go with every outfit.

What are your style goals for 2019?

To stay outside of the box and up my sneaker collection.



DECARLO JACKSON

23, MUSICIAN

What are you wearing?

Jeans from a thrift store somewhere below the Mason-Dixon line, Electric Fetus T-shirt, Cross Colours hoodie, ASOS longline coat, chicken and waffle socks, and Adidas NMD_TSI Primeknit GTX.

Describe your style:

Comfy boy chill-core.

Who was your style icon of 2018?

Lando Calrissian from *Solo*.

One thing in your closet you can't live without:

A black hoodie.



DRELLI

21, ARTIST

What are you wearing?

Airbrushed T-shirt from the '90s, Hot Tub Club snapback, thrifted jacket, purple Chuck Taylors, and my cherry chain.

Describe your style:

Nobody got the words to describe it.

If you could inherit anyone's wardrobe whose would it be?

Eddie Murphy, he's my dad and dresses so very nice.

What are your style goals for 2019?

To turn my swag on right when I hop out of bed.



EMMA GILMAN

20, BARISTA, STUDENT

What are you wearing?

Thrifted black dress and plaid blazer, floral Doc Martens, *Alice in Wonderland* scarf.

Describe your style:

Half comfy, half cute Hogwarts grandpa/children's art teacher.

What are your style goals for 2019?

More colors and random mixed prints.

Who was your style icon for 2018?

Shia LaBeouf and FKA Twigs.

One thing in your closet you can't live without:

My scarves.

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JEFF WHEELER, STAR TRIBUNE

DIRTBALL BLUES

It's the end of the world as Willie Murphy knows it, and, well, he's felt better

BY JIM WALSH

Willie Murphy is sick and he's depressed. The 75-year-old Minneapolis blues-rock legend has been laid up with a kidney problem, severe stomach flu, and a serious blood infection that landed him in a nursing home for much of last year, leaving unable to sing until just recently. He's been doing yoga and tai chi to fight off the depression that descended after finishing his new album, *Dirtball: Every Man for Himself and God Against Us All*. He's sung the blues and he's endured depression, and he knows the difference between the two.

"My experience of clinical depression is that it's a serious mental illness, and the blues, to me, is a source of joy, actually," says Murphy, sitting in the living room of his Phillips neighborhood home with his

dog Clyde at his feet and his guitar at his elbow. On the coffee table in front of him sits an ashtray of overflowing cigarette and cigar butts, a copy of the latest Southside Pride newspaper, and a library copy of David Graeber's *Bullshit Jobs*.

"I didn't play for months, and I couldn't sing," he says. "Singing has been my number-one favorite thing to do, especially since I got old enough to not be a sex maniac anymore. So not being able to sing was really big. But it's interesting that you should compare the two, because my father, who I didn't know well because he left when I was five, but later in his life he came and got reacquainted with us, and I learned a little about him."

"In the '60s, when he was in his 50s, he was living in Dallas and engaged to a girl a third of his age and working three jobs. He went to the hospital one day and he said he

felt like the whole world was on his chest. The doctor said, 'You're the worst case of manic depression I've ever encountered, and I'm going to give you this new drug,' And it was lithium, and he took it for the rest of his life. He said it was a miracle."

"He said, 'I always thought that when I felt like that, that's what people were talking about when they said they have the blues.' But it was a much more severe kind of blues than the songs are about, I think. I don't think the blues as I know it, and I know it pretty well, has as much to do with depression. Singing the blues is often joyful, actually. When you're depressed, you don't want to do anything. Nothing interests you. I'm trying to fight it without drugs and stuff, by keeping on doing stuff."

Produced and engineered by Murphy, mixed and mastered by Rob Genadek, and given funky ballast by Murphy's band the Angel-Headed Hipsters, *Dirtball* is a blues-soul-rock referendum on climate change, fascism, classism, capitalism, and America the brutal, all sung with uplifting anger, cranky optimism, and crazy hope. The sound of a desperate man in a desperate world, *Dirtball* is a pointed and passionate reaction to the times we're all slouching through.

WILLIE MURPHY

at Richfield American Legion
first two Mondays of each month

"What I like about it is it's me, and it's honest about the way I feel about the world," he says. "I still believe in love. I'm still a hippie, I suppose. Although it's hard when you're depressed, but that's the kind of thing you have to keep remembering. You might think you believe something, but you don't act on it. For instance, if I see somebody with a cardboard sign on the side of the road, I always give them money. The thing is, I believe in compassion, so I gotta act on it—at least in that minimal way. And other ways, too."

One way, for Murphy, is to make music—after a career that has found him as a charter member of the Minnesota Music Hall of Fame, co-creator of the 1969 folk/blues classic (with "Spider" John Koerner) *Running, Jumping, Standing Still*, and leader of Minnesota big-band stalwarts Willie and the Bees. His latest album may be his greatest, with songs about "the rat race we're all stuck in, and the necessity of dealing with all the bullshit we have to deal with," and to-the-point tunes such as "Faith, Hope and Solidarity," which reports on his neighborhood, where "people are strugglin'" and "begging on the street" while children go hungry.

"I live in the poorest neighborhood in five states, or that's what they used to say. Phillips," said Murphy, whose house sits a few blocks away from where the Hiawatha Avenue tent community sprouted up in the spring. "The encampment brings a lot of stuff right in your face, man. A lot of people are scared about it. We find needles in my yard, and people come and sit and huff on my porch. This is what we used to call 'the other world,' or 'the third world,' but it's been here for quite a while."

"I've always kind of been a political lefty, or in some people's views a radical. I don't use a cell phone, I don't watch television. Those are sort of radical ideas, you know? You're forced to drive a car, you're forced to have a computer, but I don't do social media or anything."

At a time when too much media and music has the mute button on, it's refreshing to hear a songwriter talk angrily and passionately about the state of the world. And as "preachy" (Murphy's word) as he may sound about it all, *Dirtball* is a beautiful record of hope and love amid the madness.

"Some days the hope part is just wishful thinking," says Murphy, coughing and

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An Evening with Gungor

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CINEMA

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35mm Presentation

Matinee
Saturday, Jan. 5 // 1 pm
Wall-E (2008)

Thursday, Jan. 10 // 7:30 pm
Pulp Fiction (1994)

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MUSIC

laughing. “I mean, I think it’s all over for the whole world, for our world. I really do. I think it’s the end of the world. That’s on my most pessimistic days, which probably outnumber the other days, but we’ve got to keep trying to live. We’re all caught up in this system, even some of my musician friends. A musician has always been a marginal person in society, I think, which is why I don’t get any Social Security. I’ve never had a job.”

These days Murphy goes to work the first two Mondays of the month at the blues jam he hosts at the Richfield American Legion. The early reaction to *Dirtball* has raised his spirits and his itch to sing, and he’s looking forward to a healthier and more musical new year.

“Not being able to sing was really big, and I wasn’t making any money because I couldn’t play the gigs,” he says. “Now I’m playing the blues jam, and it’s much harder than I thought it would be in multiple ways. But friends help me with my gear, and I get up there and I feel depressed and weird and I get so tired.

“But I feel pretty good today.” **CP**

CRITICS’ PICKS

FIRST AVENUE’S BEST NEW BANDS OF 2018

FIRST AVENUE, FRIDAY 1.4

First Avenue’s Best New Bands showcase is back for another self-explanatory night of seven emerging local acts. This year’s lineup includes arguably the two most promising new Minneapolis punk bands: Gully Boys and Scrunchies, who happen to be last year’s City Pages first- and second-place Picked to Click finishers, respectively. Also slated to perform are singer Annie Mack, ‘60s-inspired rockers the Carnegies, singer-songwriter Faith Boblett, electronic trio Static Panic, and synth-pop group Yam Haus. 18+. 7 p.m. \$10/\$12. 701 First Ave. N., Minneapolis; 612-338-8388. —MICHAEL MADDEN

CHARLIE PARR

TURF CLUB, SUNDAY 1.6

Duluth roots singer-songwriter Charlie Parr is once again venturing south to St. Paul for a residency at the Turf, performing each Sunday in January. Though we didn’t get a new studio album from Parr in 2018, his latest, 2017’s *Dog*, stands as one of his essential records, and he did low-key release two live albums though Bandcamp during the spring, taken from performances in the Netherlands and Switzerland. With Kyle Ollah. 21+. 7 p.m. \$10/\$12. 1601 University Ave. W., St. Paul; 651-647-0486. —MICHAEL MADDEN



Visit thecedar.org for more show listings

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ORDINARIUS with special guest
Doors 7pm • Show 7:30pm • All Ages • \$18 adv/\$25 dos

Tuesday, January 15
The Cedar Presents
WILLIAM FITZSIMMONS
with Jim and Sam
Doors 7pm • Show 7:30pm • All Ages • \$2 adv/\$25 dos

Thursday, January 17
The Cedar and KFAI Present
LONESOME DAN KASE
ALBUM RELEASE
with Corpse Reviver and Doug Otto & Hurricane Harold
Doors 7pm • Show 7:30pm • All Ages • \$12 GA

Friday, January 18
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TUOMO & MARKUS
with special guest
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Tuesday, January 8 • 7:30pm
Curt Obeda & Brian Z

Wednesday, January 9 • 7:30pm
The Hula Peppers

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FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

>> By Rob Brezsny

♈ ARIES (March 21-April 19): No one has resisted the force of gravity with more focus than businessman Roger Babson (1875-1967). He wrote an essay entitled “Gravity – Our Enemy Number One,” and sought to develop anti-gravity technology. His Gravity Research Foundation gave awards to authentic scientists who advanced the understanding of gravity. If that organization still existed and offered prizes, I’m sure that researchers of the Aries persuasion would win them all in 2019. For your tribe, the coming months should feature lots of escapes from heaviness, including soaring flights and playful levity and lofty epiphanies.

♉ TAURUS (April 20-May 20): The night parrots of Australia are so elusive that there was a nearly six-decade stretch when no human saw a single member of the species. But in 2013, after searching for 15 years, photographer John Young spotted one and recorded a 17-second video. Since then, more sightings have occurred. According to my astrological vision, your life in 2019 will feature experiences akin to the story of the night parrot’s reappearance. A major riddle will be at least partially solved. Hidden beauty will materialize. Long-secret phenomena will no longer be secret. A missing link will re-emerge.

♊ GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Millions of years ago, Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia, Antarctica, and North and South America were smooched together. Earth had a single land mass, the supercontinent Pangea. Stretching across its breadth was a colossal feature, the Central Pangean Mountains. Eventually, though, Europe and America split apart, making room for the Atlantic Ocean and dividing the Central Pangean range. Today the Scottish Highlands and the Appalachian Mountains are thousands of miles apart, but once upon a time they were joined. In 2019, Gemini, I propose that you look for metaphorical equivalents in your own life. What disparate parts of your world had the same origin? What elements that are now divided used to be together? Re-establish their connection. Get them back in touch with each other. Be a specialist in cultivating unity.

♋ CANCER (June 21-July 22): 2019 will be an excellent time to swim in unpolluted rivers, utter sacred oaths near beautiful fountains, and enjoy leisurely saunas that help purify your mind and body. You are also likely to attract cosmic favor if you cry more than usual, seek experiences that enhance your emotional intelligence, and ensure that your head respectfully consults with your heart before making decisions. Here’s another way to get on life’s good side: cultivate duties that consistently encourage you to act out of love and joy rather than out of guilt and obligation.

♌ LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Here are four key questions I hope you’ll meditate on throughout 2019: 1. What is love? 2. What kind of love do you want to receive? 3. What kind of love do you want to give? 4. How could you transform yourself in order to give and receive more of the love you value most? To spur your efforts, I offer you these thoughts from teacher David R. Hawkins: “Love is misunderstood to be an emotion; actually, it is a state of awareness, a way of being in the world, a way of seeing oneself and others.”

♍ VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): “Most living things begin in the absence of light,” writes Virgo author Nancy Holder. “The vine is rooted in the earth; the fawn takes form in the womb of the doe.” I’ll remind you that your original gestation also took place in the dark. And I foresee a metaphorically comparable process unfolding for you in 2019. You’ll undergo an incubation period that may feel cloaked and mysterious. That’s just as it should be: the best possible circumstances for the vital new part of your life that will be growing. So be patient. You’ll see the tangible results in 2020.

♎ LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Many plants that modern Americans regard as weeds were regarded as tasty food by Native Americans. A prime example is the cattail, which grows wild in wetlands. Indigenous people ate the rootstock, stem, leaves, and flower spike. I propose that we use this scenario to serve as a metaphor for some of your potential opportunities in 2019. Things you’ve regarded as useless or irrelevant or inconvenient could be revealed as assets. Be alert for the possibility of such shifts. Here’s advice from Ralph Waldo Emerson: “What is a weed? A plant whose virtues have not yet been discovered.”

♏ SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): The slow, gradual, incremental approach will be your magic strategy in 2019. Being persistent and thorough as you take one step at a time will provide you with the power to accomplish wonders. Now and then, you may be tempted to seek dramatic breakthroughs or flashy leaps of faith; and there may indeed be one or two such events mixed in with your steady rhythms. But for the most part, your glory will come through tenacity. Now study this advice from mystic Meister Eckhart: “Wisdom consists in doing the next thing you have to do, doing it with your whole heart, and finding delight in doing it.”

♐ SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Sagittarian polymath Piet Hein wrote a poem in which he named the central riddle of his existence. “A bit beyond perception’s reach, / I sometimes believe I see / That life is two locked boxes / Each containing the other’s key.” I propose that we adopt this scenario to symbolize one of the central riddles of your existence. I’ll go further and speculate that in 2019 one of those boxes will open as if through a magical fluke, without a need for the key. This mysterious blessing won’t really be a magical fluke, but rather a stroke of well-deserved and hard-earned luck that is the result of the work you’ve been doing to transform and improve yourself.

♑ CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): What themes and instruments do people least want to hear in a piece of music? Composer Dave Solder determined that the worst song ever made would contain bagpipes, cowboy music, tubas, advertising jingles, operatic rapping, and children crooning about holidays. Then he collaborated with other musicians to record such a song. I suspect that as you head into 2019, it’ll be helpful to imagine a metaphorically comparable monstrosity: a fantastic mess that sums up all the influences you’d like to avoid. With that as a vivid symbol, you’ll hopefully be inspired to avoid allowing any of it to sneak into your life in the coming months.

♒ AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): In Canada, it’s illegal to pretend to practice witchcraft. It’s fine to actually do witchcraft, however. With that as our inspiration, I advise you to be rigorous about embodying your authentic self in 2019. Make sure you never lapse into merely imitating who you are or who you used to be. Don’t fall into the trap of caring more about your image than about your actual output. Focus on standing up for what you really mean rather than what you imagine people expect from you. The coming months will be a time when you can summon pure and authoritative expressions of your kaleidoscopic soul.

♊ PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): In the 18th century, Benjamin Franklin was a Founding Father who played a key role in getting the United States up and running. He wasn’t happy that the fledgling nation chose the bald eagle as its animal symbol. The supposedly majestic raptor is lazy, he wrote. It doesn’t hunt for its own food, but steals grub obtained by smaller birds of prey. Furthermore, bald eagles are cowardly, Franklin believed. Even sparrows may intimidate them. With that as our theme, Pisces, I invite you to select a proper creature to be your symbolic ally in 2019. Since you will be building a new system and establishing a fresh power base, you shouldn’t pick a critter that’s merely glamorous. Choose one that excites your ambition and animates your willpower.

freewillastrology@freewillastrology.com
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thu : january 3
9:30pm : radio five watt presents
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jim stapley

fri : january 4
7pm : laura and sean’s
movie and music trivia
10pm : charlie doesn’t surf
weather check, kill palace

sat : january 5
7pm : trivia mafia presents
331 drinkin’ spelling bee
10pm : tacky annie, dplv

mon : january 7
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SHUFFLING CARDS
BY BRENDAN EMMETT QUIGLEY

Across

- 1 Give, as a gift
7 Globe’s shapes
14 Showing respect for, with “of”
16 Antifreeze component
17 Give a shock to
18 Larger than life
19 Super-smelly queen bee’s home?
21 12/31, initially
22 Valuable seam deposit
23 Building managers, briefly
24 Easy win
25 Be undecided
27 Man in the clouds
28 Rakish sorts
29 Detroit car bomb
32 Lizards used in witches brews
33 Sporty citrus drinks in a sudden outpouring?
35 Biting sound
36 Have trouble swallowing, say
37 Manila envelope part
38 Rapper ____ Mensa
39 Bug-eyed
43 Post-shower covering
44 In a fog
46 It ends in diciembre
47 ____ tide

- 48 Something that might help Rico in a “Miami Vice” case?
51 TV actress Spencer
53 Swatter, old-style
54 Overlook, as faults
55 Danish islanders
56 Wandering ones
57 Graduation cap attachment

Down

- 1 Piece that moves on the diagonals
2 From A to Z
3 Without a beard
4 Ripped
5 Not taken by
6 Scarfs
7 Made a point
8 Pulls a face
9 Lust, with “the”
10 Some monorails
11 Ballgame cancellations
12 Digestive juices
13 Makes, as a cup of tea
15 Caravan member
20 “Tell me you’re sorry”
24 Lady in “Ivanhoe”
26 Testify
28 Take it back to square one

- 30 Still wet
31 Fuel additive
32 Bother constantly
33 More run-down
34 Hockey game’s start
35 Beat to death
37 Hockey goalie’s area
38 Gymnastic jumps
40 Gothic roof features
41 Waiting to be brought home
42 New Testament section
44 Like celebrities whose time has long since passed
45 One of the black keys
48 Scott of TV’s “Hawaii Five-0”
49 Banks of fashion
50 Strange craft
52 Transcript nos.

Last Week’s Answer

A	M	E	N		S	E	E	Y	A		M	S	R	P			
N	A	N	A		C	O	N	E	S		I	T	I	S			
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SAVAGE LOVE

Lost Kinkster

Where do we go now
that Tumblr banned us?



Dan Savage

I'm a 19-year-old bisexual woman really into orgasm denial and edging. With the recent Tumblr ban on all NSFW content, I have no idea where to indulge my kinks and find my community. I've never needed to go anywhere else to find porn, explore my sexuality, and be surrounded by supportive people—and now I'm at a loss. A few Google searches have been really disheartening. Clearly I've been spoiled by all the easily found porn made by women, for women on Tumblr. Hell, I'm used to it being made by bisexuals, for bisexuals. I feel like I'm 15 again, desperately scouring the internet for anything that applies to me. Please tell me where I can find my porn!

MISSING MY PORN COMMUNITY

P.S. You wrote about how this ban harms sex workers, Dan, but please write about how it harms queer and kinky people, too!

"Many people are scrambling to relocate their fetish communities in the wake of Tumblr's ban on 'adult content,'" said Alexander Cheves, a queer writer in NYC. "Porn is more than hot videos—porn creates communities. I wouldn't know half the gross stuff I'm into if it weren't for Tumblr!"

Luckily, MMPC, the men and women who created and/or curated the content that spoke to you and affirmed your identity didn't evaporate on December 17, the day Tumblr's porn ban went into effect. Many have taken their clips, captions, GIFs, and erotic imaginations to other platforms, and some are creating new platforms.

"MMPC should devote some time to scouring Twitter for bisexual women into orgasm denial and edging, some of whom may be uploading their original content to platforms like Just For Fans," said Cheves. "The creators of JFF are right now working on a more Tumblr-like social-media extension to their site. Other start-ups like Slixia or ShareSomeCome and social platforms like Switter have emerged in the wake of this crackdown. These are corners of the internet where MMPC can find her porn."

Cheves wrote a terrific piece for Out that connects the dots between Tumblr's ban on porn and the anti-sex, anti-porn, anti-sex-work, and anti-queer crackdown that was already under way on other platforms ("The Dangerous Trend of LGBTQ

Censorship on the Internet," December 6, 2018). As Eric Leue, executive director of the Free Speech Coalition, told Cheves: "Many people in straight, heteronormative communities don't understand: For those in queer, or niche, or fetish communities, Tumblr was one of the few accessible spaces to build communities and share content."

And as long as sex-education programs don't cover queer sex or kinky sex, LGBTQ youth and young people with kinks will continue to get their sexual education on the internet. And the harder it is to access explicit content, the harder it's going to be for young queers to find not just smut that speaks to them, but the education they need to protect themselves.

"More youth will get hurt and more will get HIV thanks to Tumblr's content ban," said Cheves. "That's not scaremongering—that will happen. Case in point: I grew up in a fiercely religious home on a 500-acre farm in the middle of Georgia with dial-up and a pretty intense parental blocker. I couldn't access porn—I couldn't even access articles with sexual illustrations, including sexual health illustrations. When I went to college in 2010, the same year Grindr hit the App Store, I knew absolutely nothing about HIV and nothing about my community. It's no wonder that I tested positive at 21."

Shortly after getting the news that he was HIV+, Cheves started an educational queer sex blog, thebeastlyexboyfriend.com. "I wanted to reach those kids in the middle of nowhere," said Cheves, "kids like me."

"If MMPC wants to help her community survive, she may no longer have the option of being a passive consumer—she might have to start a website or blog, wave a digital flag, and find others," said Cheves. "Censorship will never be able to keep people with niche fetishes from congregating, digitally or otherwise. It's just going to be a little harder to find each other."

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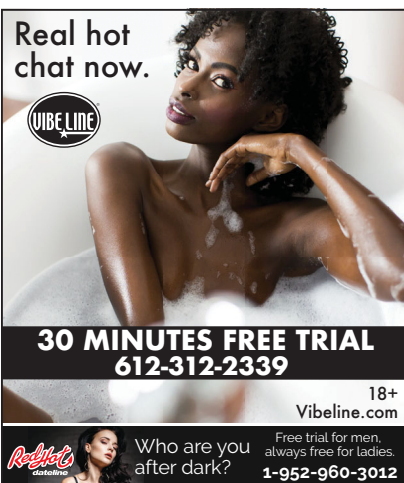


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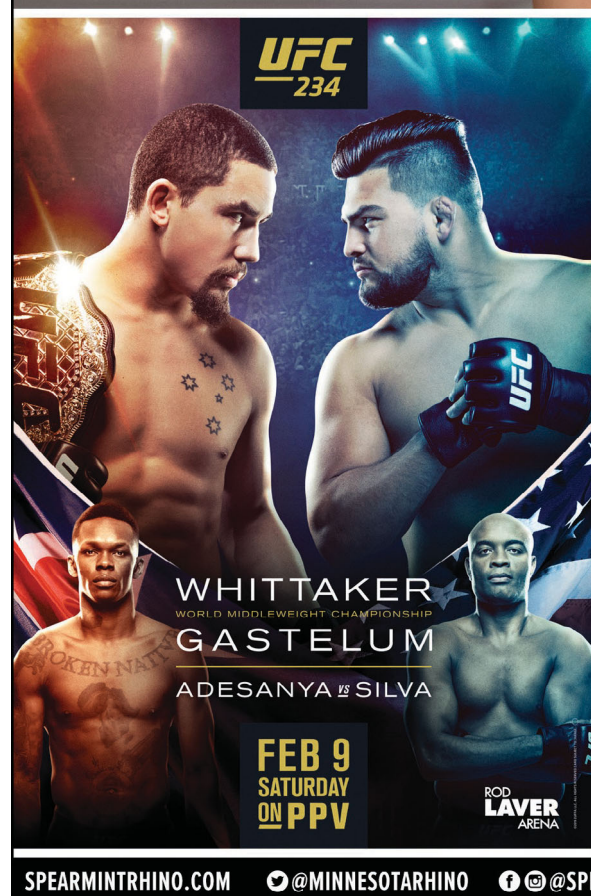
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#28931 Chrysler T&C vin-1C4GP54G1XB613452 Plate WI-517-ZVY From- 1451 Adam St. Shakopee, MN 55379 on-12-12-18;
#23621 Ford Taurus vin-1FAHP55U42G06092 NO plate From- 15101 Green Haven Dr Burnsville on-12-11-18; M-14 Chev Impala vin-2G1WT58K79220460 Plate IL-ACM-7508 From-15101 Green Haven Dr Burnsville on-11-2-18; #28974 Chev Blazer-1GNDT13W8Y2218919 Plate-804BVJ From 15101 Green Haven Dr Burnsville on 12-12-18; #28952 Chevy Truck 1GCHK29GX2E221880 Plate NM-105SN5 1577 Sumack Cr Burnsville on 12-10-18; #28967 Chevrolet Impala 2G1WF55E3Y9293641 No Plate 2500 Strunks Rd. Shakopee, 12-2-18.
Owner and Lien Holders have the right to reclaim the vehicle under MN Statue #168b.07. Available for retrieval at Prof. Rec. Ser. 2552 Strunks Rd. Shakopee, MN 55379. 952.405.7400

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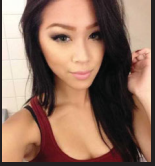
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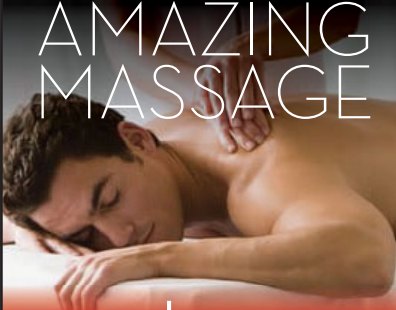
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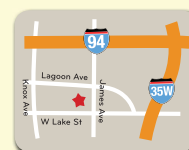
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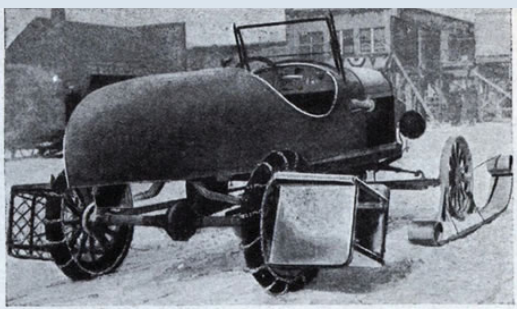
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